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Approved For Release 2009/05/20 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001500090064-5

28 February 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 28 February 1966

DDCI was in the chair. DCI was scheduled for an appearance this morning with the Fulbright committee.

DD/I noted completion of a new and revised Agency memo on the number of ChiCom forces in NVN. The estimated number is now up from 20,000 to a new total between 30,000 and 47,000. It was agreed that the memo would be given an elite dissemination with a covering note from the DCI.

DD/I reported that advance conclusions of an ORR study of the bombing effort in Vietnam have been made available to [ ] for Sec Def.

25X1

[ ] reported that Nkrumah was en route from Peiping to Moscow and is not likely to be able to overturn the coup. DD/P noted that the "subversive base" in Africa is likely now to shift from Ghana to Mali or Guinea. DD/P asked for OCI advice as to whether advance [ ] delayed. (See Action 1)

25X1

Lehman reported that the remaining portion of the 1st Marine Division on Okinawa is being sent to Vietnam.

[ ] noted that a recent DD/I paper on Communist infiltration statistics overtakes the existing NIE on this subject. There is a need for some sort of USIB approval of a paper on this subject, and it was agreed that a CIA/DIA paper would be prepared for this purpose.

[ ] reported that Kent is feeling better and will come into the office for a while today.

Warfield briefed on the background of recent press reporting alleging, without fact, that the Agency had objected to use of nearby land by the

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Boy Scouts for a camp. DDCI said he had talked with Executive Director and DD/S, and it is now understood that, when local small-town newspapers make such statements in the future, the Agency should take immediate actions which forestall repetition by larger city newspapers.

deSilva reported briefly on his net conclusions following his recent trip to Vietnam and the Far East. A written report is being prepared. deSilva said that he believes the Viet Cong can no longer count on winning militarily but that this will make the VC more active in the political arena. Ambassador Lodge is high in his praise of the COS and the station. The PAT program has been widely adopted and is recognized as the "cutting edge." Various TV documentaries are being done on the PAT program. DDCI noted that it is clearly U. S. policy to make South Vietnam a showcase of what the U. S. can do in the civilian sectors in Asia. In this respect, Carver and perhaps deSilva will meet with Secretary Gardner and Education Commissioner Keppel today prior to a HEW mission to Vietnam to look into improved education facilities among other things.

Houston reported that the Hungarian defector will appear before the Rivers subcommittee on 2 March. [REDACTED]

25X1

DD/S&T noted that a search is under way to find parts of the wreckage of the U-2 lost in the Sierras last week. Until we know more about this accident, operations [REDACTED] will be held down. This should not, however, stand in the way of seeking final approval for resumption of TACKLE operations, and DDCI asked that contact be made with [REDACTED] to see if we can get a decision today (which is the last day of McGeorge Bundy's official duties).

25X1

DD/S&T noted the shrinking inventory of U-2 planes available to the U. S. [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] Kelly Johnson is urging Agency purchase of new and improved versions of the U-2. Such a purchase would depend upon the adequacy of ECM gear for defense against SAM's. This is under study, and the issue will surface before the NRO Executive Committee shortly.

DD/P noted Joe Alsop's article this morning concerning estimates of Communist infiltration capacity. (See Action 3)

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DDCI noted that [ ] who is assigned to the office of the Vice President, is losing his secretary. [ ] says the Agency has agreed to provide a replacement. DD/S was asked to verify this and to work out appropriate arrangements with [ ]

25X1

25X1

DDCI reported on the general nature of the two recent meetings at the White House during which the President and Vice President briefed various Congressmen on the situation and prospects in Vietnam.

ACTIONS:

25X1

DDCI also requests DD/I advice as to the next likeliest spot for a coup in Africa given the assumption that we remain in the midst of a chain reaction of coups. (DD/I - In the course of the day)

DONE

2. DDCI asked DD/S to arrange a fifteen-minute oral briefing for DDCI on the Career Training Program to include the numbers on board and the numbers being recruited. (DD/S by 7 March)

DONE

3. DDCI requests from the Board of National Estimates a paper setting forth the accuracy and likely source of the figures cited in the Alsop article today. The paper should also describe the distribution of NIE or other CIA documents, in and out of Washington, which may have been among the sources. (BNE - In the course of the day)

4. DDCI requests DD/I comments on the value and significance of various articles in the Washington Post Outlook Section yesterday on China with particular emphasis on the article by Fairbank. (DD/I by 2 March)

DONE

25X6

25X6

DONE

25X1

[ ]  
L. K. White

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